**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application)

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): Aldon R. Reinhardt)

Art Unit: 1754

Application No.: 10/686,097)

Examiner: Peter J. Lish

Filed: 10/14/2003)

Title ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP SYSTEM)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and non-U.S. patent, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)
-- OR --
☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.
-- OR --
☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for

10/19/2005 MBIZUNES 00000013 500574 10686097 01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

- ☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:
- A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above-referenced fees of \$180 and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. VTI-002).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

By: 

E. Eric Hoffman, Reg. No. 38,186

Dated: October 14, 2005

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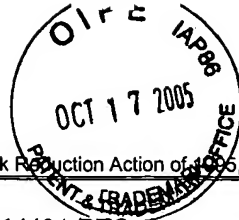
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/686,097	
			Filing Date	10/14/2003	
			First Named Inventor:	Aldon R. Reinhardt	
			Examiner name: Peter Lish	GROUP: 1754	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	VTI-002

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cited No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ^{2(f/known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
	B1	US-4,211,071	07-08-1980	Wyatt	
	B2	US-4,288,978	09-15-1981	Wyatt	
	B3	US-4,463,803	08-07-1984	Wyatt	
	B4	US-4,512,288	04-23-1985	Michaud	
	B5	US-4,633,821	01-06-1987	Cleer, Jr.	
	B6	US-4,895,136	01-23-1990	Poppe	
	B7	US-4,993,402	02-19-1991	Ripka	
	B8	US-5,615,668	04-01-1997	Panz et al.	
	B9	US-6,016,773	01-25-2000	Zinke	
	B10	US-6,293,277	09-25-2001	Panz et al.	
	B11	US-6,338,337	01-15-2002	Panz et al.	
	B12	US-6,666,172	12-23-2003	Reinhardt	
	B13	US-6,772,712	08-10-2004	Reinhardt	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Cntry Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ^{5(f/known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear	T ⁶

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER SIGNATURE:		DATE CONSIDERED:
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2. *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.